

TRUMBULL PUBLIC SCHOOLS  
TRUMBULL, CONNECTICUT

Curriculum Committee  
of the  
Trumbull Board of Education

Via Audio Conferencing  
Thursday, January 21, 2020 – 8:15 a.m.

MINUTES

- I. Call to Order/Introduction – The meeting was called to order by S.Iwanicki at 8:20 a.m.

Members present

M. Ward, chair  
M. Petitti  
L. Timpanelli  
S. Iwanicki, Ed.D.

- II. Correspondence / Public Comment – Dr. Iwanicki noted that the public was invited to send any comments via e-mail, and that she had not received any.

- III. Approval/Minutes – Special Meeting 11/30/2020  
Ms. Petitti moved to approve the Minutes as presented. Ms. Timpanelli seconded the motion. The motion was unanimously agreed to.

- IV. New Business

- a. Welcome Assistant Superintendent & Report- Mr. Ward welcomed Dr. Iwanicki to Trumbull Public Schools. She shared that she was excited to be a part of the district and had visited a few schools in her first two days. The educators and administrators are doing phenomenal work. She also noted the positive attendance data which indicates educators and families partnering to make learning engaging and important for students.
- b. Town Hall Meetings- Mr. Ward encouraged Dr. Iwanicki to attend the meetings and Ms. Timpanelli agreed. They both shared this is an excellent way to hear directly from the staff.
- c. Short-Term Goals for the Assistant Superintendent- Mr. Ward inquired and Dr. Iwanicki shared that she plans to get to know the educators and people working on the curriculum and examine the curriculum more deeply. She acknowledged the effectiveness of the curriculum review and approval system created by Dr. Budd and would like to use that system and calendar to review and approve curriculum moving forward. She also added that she would seek input from those people on the committee regarding which practices they would like to see continue and if there are any they would like to change.
- d. K-Elementary Social Studies- Mr. Ward inquired if Dr. Iwanicki had an experience with social studies at the K-level. Dr. Iwanicki shared that she has led teams through unit writing for K-5 social studies units based on the most current standards provided by the state and the Common Core State Standards.
- e. African American/Black and Puerto Rican/Latino Studies Course - Dr. Iwanicki

shared that this is a new state requirement for 2022 that the course be offered as an option for students to take. Ms. Petitti shared that the committee had begun to discuss the course.

- f. Balancing Curriculum- Ms. Petitti noted that some educators can lean toward the right or left and she asked that the new assistant superintendent monitor to maintain a balance and that the curriculum does not lean towards one side or the other. It was also emphasized that the committee members are firm believers in teachers, but balance needs to be a key word.
- g. Wednesday Staff Development- Mr. Ward mentioned that the next six Wednesdays are set aside for staff development and asked what the district plans were. Ms. Timpanelli clarified that these days were planned by the department chairs and principals and the board voted on this decision. The committee requested a summary or a report at the end of these six days with highlights of the accomplishments during this time. The activities will depend on the building. Ms. Petitti seconded Mr. Ward's request that there is a report of the major activities and their impact to provide feedback. Both shared that this would be helpful if there is a second request for days. Ms. Timpanelli agreed and felt that principals would be accountable.
- h. Budget requests for Curriculum Development. Mr. Ward asked if Dr. Iwanicki had received any summer requests for learning and had reviewed the budget for curriculum. She shared that she planned to do so in the near future.
- i. Process for Curriculum Review- Dr. Iwanicki asked which areas of the curriculum process have been the most valuable and would the committee like to see continued. Mr. Ward shared elementary social studies is a priority. Ms. Petitti shared that over 200 curriculum courses were reviewed by the previous assistant superintendent. Ms. Timpanelli shared we need to look at the new course mentioned previously during the meeting and the graduation requirements to make sure they are all met. Staffing was also mentioned in relationship to supporting curriculum in the areas of math, science, and health. Ms. Petitti also requested that the curriculum be reviewed for anything outdated in addition to the staffing.

Mr. Ward moved to adjourn the meeting at 8:38am. Ms. Timpanelli made a motion to adjourn. Ms. Petitti seconded. The motion was unanimous agreed upon.